

MACDONALD COLLEGE JOURNAL



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Farm . Home . School



THE MACDONALD LASSIE
BY REX WOODS



Plenty of Jobs For All Rural Groups

"Are farm forums going to replace all other rural organizations?" a curious observer asked the other day. The people he asked were all keenly interested in forums; but not one of them believed that the forums would or should replace all the other groups.

Why is it not desirable that all the groups in a district be fused into a single big one? Simply because each gives some people a chance to work on the things closest to his heart — church affairs or calf clubs or co-operatives or crop affairs or women's interests. Each has a special job to do — a job that can best be done by a specialized group.

But that job may mean little if other things aren't looked after, as well. We're not likely to have happy farm people without good soil and pastures and crops and livestock and marketing systems and homes and community life. What's more, not one of these things is likely to move ahead very fast unless all the members in the group promoting it have a pretty good idea of the all-over picture.

Luckily, most districts in Eastern Canada have at least one group that interests itself in everything pertaining to rural life — the farm forum. In this special issue of the *Journal* we have investigated several aspects of the forums' activities, to find where they fit in best. One article deals with projects, which include almost every conceivable variety. One deals with members' progressiveness along lines that touch the main interests of every rural organization. A third tells how various country groups have contrived to let other people know exactly what they are doing, and how they're doing it.

We have focussed on the forums for three reasons — because they're the only groups that exist in almost every district; because, meeting once a week all winter and carrying on many projects, they're usually the most active groups in their communities; and because their interests cover everything in rural life.

This diversity of interests may be either a strength or a weakness, depending on what each forum does about it. If a group tries to do everything by itself, it will simply dissipate its strength, discourage its members and build up antagonism in other groups. But if its members are also active in the groups set up to do special jobs, the forums can serve as the co-ordinating centres, studying the needs of the district as a whole and helping to tie together the programs of the other groups so that they won't be working in vacuums or at cross purposes. Thus, instead of replacing other organizations, the forums can help to build them up so that each can do a better job than ever.

This does not mean that forums should stop work on projects. They've accomplished a great deal along lines that were hitherto untouched. They need only proceed as many of them have in the past, their members working in other organizations to promote the particular projects of each group. But even when that is done, there will always be something not covered by any established group.

Such situations may be met in one of two ways. A forum may undertake a project, alone or in co-operation with other groups, as has been done in sponsoring calf clubs and school fairs. Or it may help to set up a new organization to do the job, as has been done with the co-operative health services in three Quebec counties.

There's plenty of work for all our rural groups to do. The better they work together in doing this work, the more satisfaction everyone will get out of it.

Our Cover Picture

There's still plenty of place for a horse on the farm, and these specimens pack plenty of pull. Photo taken at the Lachute Fair by the Editor.

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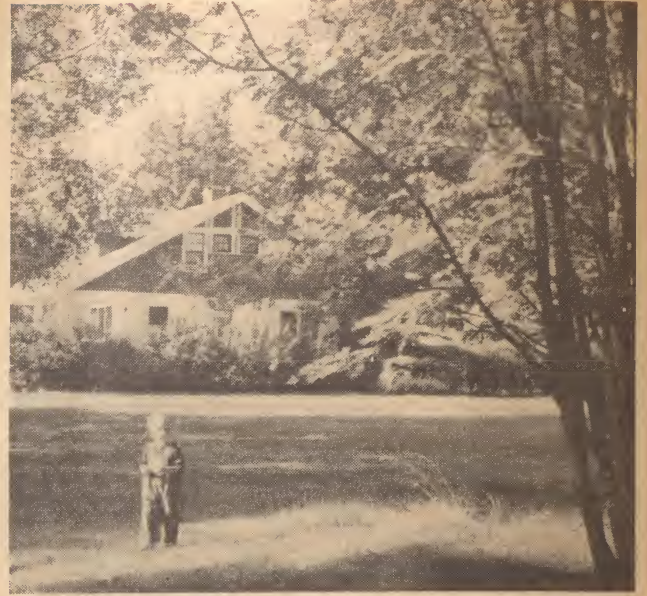
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A survey of 286 forum members shows that most of them have made a great many improvements in farming and living during the last three years. It also shows spots where further improvements could easily be made.

by J. S. Cram



Attractive settings and happy family life reflect real progress in farming.

Do Forums Bring Progress?

HOW progressive are farm forum members? It's easy for me, or anyone else who has seen the forums at work, to rush in and say: "Don't ask silly questions; they're very progressive!" But saying that isn't enough to convince some people; they want to be shown exactly what the results have been. What's more, many of them don't think it's enough for a forum to undertake projects. They contend that time spent on these projects has been taken at the expense of actual farming.

It's a point worth investigating. Certainly, getting together once a week and undertaking the odd group project are worth while in themselves. But the real test of any organization lies in whether it helps its members to do better work, or get more out of life, or make a greater contribution to the general welfare. In other words, the best criterion of an organization's worth is the progressiveness of its members.

How progressive, then, are Quebec farm forum members? On the whole, they're very progressive — quite eager to adapt themselves to changing conditions. This has been proven by a 40-point survey made by Floyd F. Griesbach, while he was still Provincial Farm Forum Secretary in Quebec. This survey, undertaken to discover the progress of forum members during the last three years, has unearthed a great deal of interesting information.

Covering 286 farmers in 12 counties, it shows that the average farmer taking part in the survey has improved almost 40 percent of his practices in the last three years. It bears out what many people might have said from observation — that the greatest single sign of progress has been rural electrification; but it also shows that the

scale of electrification has been far higher than most people would have guessed, since three out of every four of the families installed electrical equipment in their homes and barns.

It also points out other things that are not quite so obvious. For example, it shows that two-thirds of the farmers have improved the quality of their livestock, and have fed them better. Another two-thirds have paid more attention to spraying and dusting their gardens. Field practices have been streamlined, too. Almost six out of every 10 of the farmers questioned have made better use of manure, improved their methods of cultivation, paid more attention to crop rotation, and applied more fertilizers.

Living Improved, Too

Nor have home and community been neglected. Some two-thirds of the people represented have taken a bigger part in community activities, and over half of them have stepped up their recreation. Besides electrical equipment being installed in three-quarters of the homes, half of them have had running water laid on, 40 percent have put in baths and flush toilets and 30 percent have remodelled their kitchens according to modern plans.

Considering the changes in groups of related practices, the area of biggest change was in non-farm activities such as community affairs and recreation. Apparently a lot of farm families have found that it pays to get out and mingle with your neighbours and enjoy yourself once in a while. Of course, this is a natural and direct outgrowth of the forum movement. And it is interesting to note that districts scoring high in these community activities have tended to do well all along the line.

ANOTHER CHALLENGE

to Farming in the 1950's

● How many farmers realize that conservation practices not only save soil but also increase yields and reduce crop production costs? A majority of farm paper editors . . . regional and national . . . answering this question said that nearly 100 percent realize it but, for various reasons, most do not yet practice it.

Here is your challenge as farm leaders of the dawning decade: To transform this apathetic acceptance of soil conservation—wherever you find it—into dynamic guidance of prevailing farm practice. It calls for the fire of youth, the energy of persistent purpose, to overcome habits and wasteful ways.

In this service to agriculture and to America, the farm machinery industry is your ally. For example, Case has consistently promoted the principle that conservation is not something to be done for the farmer but rather to be his own way of farming with his own farm power and implements, at his own discretion and responsibility.



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With its 15-foot working width, the Case wide-cut disk harrow gives great capacity with tractors of medium size, such as the Case full 2-plow "SC" shown here with adjustable front axle. Outer sections of this harrow swing on inclined pivots. They can be carried above the middle gangs to go through 12-foot gates, or to gain extra penetration when used as 10½-foot harrow. Angling and straightening "on the go"—by hydraulic control or by rope control powered by its own gangs—makes it easy to cross grassed waterways without cutting and without loss of time. J. I. Case Co., Toronto, Ont.

After non-farm activities the areas of greatest change were livestock, seed grain, the home, field practices and gardening, in each of which about half the farms reported marked progress. Improvements in hay and pasture, at less than 40 percent, were rather low for a grass-growing province, and woodlot management was even further down. However, increasing pride in farmsteads was evident from the fact that almost 30 percent of the families had improved their home settings.

Poultry and fruit were at the bottom of the list. But even then, almost a fifth of the farms represented had improved their general practices with fruit and poultry. And a fifth had streamlined their systems of marketing and keeping farm records.

There were several single lines where all the reporting farmers in a county had made considerable improvement. This went for Huntingdon in gardening and non-farm activities, for Rouville and Soulanges in woodlots, and

for Gatineau in non-farm activities. But there were also several instances of no improvement in certain lines — three counties in fruit, two in woodlots, one in livestock, one in poultry, one in marketing and one in community activities. These nine blanks were all amassed by the three tail-end counties — three each.

Eight Counties Very High

In eight of the 12 counties from which reports were received, improvements had been made in over 40 percent of all the 40 items considered. Three of the others ranged from 26.5 to 27.5, leaving only one where progress was reported for less than a quarter of the possibilities.

In all but two single items, some forum scored 100 percent; the forums representing from 4 to 12 farms, with an average of seven. The two items that showed no perfect scores were pasture management and bookkeeping, each with a top of 90 percent.

Quebec Farm Forum Progress Survey

286 Farmers Reporting

Percentage of Farmers Reporting Progress in Each Item

Non-Farm Activities	57%	Gardening	47%
Community Activities	63%	Layout	33%
Recreation	52%	Varieties	44%
Livestock	55%	Spraying and Dusting	64%
Quality	67%	Hay and Pasture	37%
Feeding	64%	Seed Mixtures	44%
Management	51%	Pasture Management	28%
Dairying	48%	Haying Methods	39%
Electrification	74%	Woodlot Management	31%
Barn Layout	25%	Landscaping of Grounds	29%
Seed Grain	50%	Marketing and Records	20%
Field Crop Varieties	51%	Marketing Methods	13%
Pure Seed Supplies	50%	Bookkeeping	27%
Seed Treatment	47%	Poultry	18%
House	49%	Breeding	11%
Planned Kitchen	30%	Feeding	24%
Running Water	50%	Management	20%
Bath and Toilet	39%	Housing	19%
Electrification	76%	Electrification	18%
Field Practices	47%	Fruit	18%
Field Layout	28%	Varieties	27%
Crop Rotation	55%	Pruning	14%
Drainage	35%	Spraying and Dusting	11%
Use of Manure	63%		
Liming	37%		
Fertilization	58%		
Cultivation	59%		

Anyone can use this list to compute his own progress rating. To do it, ignore the headings. Go over all the other items one by one, checking each one where you have made marked improvements within the last three years. Then add up the check marks, and multiply the total by $2\frac{1}{2}$ to

obtain your rating in percentage.

To get your rating in each natural grouping (such as livestock) add up the checks opposite the items under this heading, divide your total by the number of items (six for livestock) and multiply the result by $2\frac{1}{2}$.



WHEN CRAFTSMANSHIP COUNTS

Despite all advances in manufacturing techniques and the ever-increasing application of science to the production of farm equipment, the human element is still a big factor in the quality of the final product. For example, no mechanical substitute has yet been devised for the experience and "know-how" required for a first class job of polishing plow shares and moldboards. At Cockshutt's, where quality is a first consideration, master craftsmanship continues to play its important part in making Cockshutt implements "the finest that money can buy".

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This is an amazing show of progress for the forums as a whole, even although a few low scores dragged the average down considerably. It proves that forum members generally are doing better work, getting more out of life and making a greater contribution to the general welfare than they were three years ago.

Now, how about the survey? What purpose has it served? Besides determining the progress of forum members for the record, it has helped each one to see where he is lagging. Every item of the 40 brought a high score for some groups, and a low one for others, often nearby. So each farmer can benefit from the example of his neighbours in improving some of his own practices, while helping them to improve theirs in lines where he excels. Thus the forum idea of mutual helpfulness can be applied, to improve still further the farms of Quebec.

Probably the most interesting point about this whole survey is that it indicates where a lot of these people will

probably be within a few years. Progress doesn't depend on what you started with; it's won through adapting yourself to changing conditions. Most of the forum members have shown a high degree of adaptability; and with the habit of improvement firmly established, they should go a long way in the next ten years.

Who will go the farthest? The ones who periodically check over their farming practices, item by item, to see where they're lagging behind? Those who keep records, to find out exactly how each operation is paying its way? Or those who build up their farms through following conservation practices, and themselves and their families through taking an active part in community affairs?

No one of these is enough by itself; all three need to go together, to build up balanced farming and balanced living. And ten years from now, on farms where this is done, few of the children will want to leave the land.

Becomes Forums' National Secretary

"Hello, Folks, here's your new hired man," was Floyd Griesbach's greeting to Quebec farm forums when he was presented as the new provincial secretary. Now, after three years in this capacity Floyd has now gone on to the national secretaryship. There he succeeds Jos. Galway, who also mounted the national stage by way of Quebec.

During Floyd's term of office in Quebec the province's forums progressed rapidly, developing a good many action projects and setting up the framework for a real provincial organization. Undoubtedly much of this progress has been due to the energy and initiative of the provincial secretary, who has always been quick to recognize a good idea and adept at suggesting ways of putting it into action.

His resignation from the provincial office undoubtedly means a big loss to Quebec; but forum members will be

glad to see that his good work with them has been recognized. And although they will not have an exclusive claim on him from now on, they will have the satisfaction of knowing that he's still working for their cause — the common cause of all Canadian farmers.

Energetic New Secretary

Luckily, too, they've been able to secure a new provincial secretary who is young, energetic and full of ideas. Like Floyd and Joe, Jim Davidson comes from Ontario, where he secured his education and his farming experience; but his background is by no means limited to farming or to Ontario.

After graduating from the Ontario Agricultural College, Jim taught agriculture and science at Knowlton for a year, and also served as secretary of the Knowlton farm forum. Since then he has done extension work for the Ontario Agricultural College and the Adult Education Division of the Saskatchewan Department of Education. When that division was sharply reduced he returned to the family farm at Camborne, Ont., where he served as secretary of the Glourourim farm forum and was elected vice-chairman of the Northumberland County Farm Committee. Married in July, 1948, he has a son eight months old.

So, in their new provincial secretary, the Quebec forums have a man who has packed into a few years considerable experience with adult education in general and farm forum in particular. There is no doubt that he can help Quebec forums to keep on developing along both agricultural and community lines.

Nature's first line of defence against soil erosion is the vegetation which covers the earth.



Floyd Griesbach, new national secretary, talks forum with F. A. Smith, Sutton Junction.

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OTHER C-I-L POTATO FUNGICIDES

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"By Their Deeds..."

ACTION projects are growing like mushrooms among farm forums in Quebec. From all sections of the province come reports of what forums are doing to improve their communities, their health, their agriculture and their recreation. This project idea is certainly catching!

Community activities lead the list of improvements. No less than four forums have arranged to build a community hall, or to remodel an old building into one. The Massawippi group in Stanstead fixed up an old school for use as a central meeting place; and this led to closer scrutiny of the church, which also needed a little fixing up. So they held card parties in their new hall to finance painting and repairing the church. To further brighten up the town they tore down a partially burned house, and sawed it up for fuel.

The Low Forest and Kingsley group in Compton were planning to build a community hall, and Beaver Pond in Brome was well on the way, with the land donated by a member and lumber supplied by others in the group. Ives Hill and Drapers Corners in Sherbrooke bought the local school, which was no longer needed for its original purpose, and also went to work to fix up their cemetery. Another cemetery was to be fenced and kept up by the Harrington forum in Argenteuil.

Five forums arranged to paint and letter mail boxes. They include Glenday Road in Sherbrooke, Cantley in Gatineau, Zion in Pontiac, Bulwer in Compton and Libbytown in Stanstead. And in at least four places, forums appeared as friends in need. Glenday Road, Sherbrooke, helped two families who lost their homes in a wind storm, and also welcomed a new family to the district with a social evening. Bevin Lake in Argenteuil bought blankets for burned-out members. And

Quebec forums have launched scores of action projects in the past season. These activities affect every facet of rural living.

Green Lake in Pontiac collected \$700 from forums to help replace a member's burned buildings. In addition, the Fitch Bay forum in Stanstead sponsored a reception for two newly married couples.

Three large group projects were also reported. Cookshire in Compton was trying to organize a co-operative frozen food locker plant. Granby Hill in Shefford was promoting rural electrification in the district; and East Settlement in Argenteuil organized a mutual fire insurance project in three parishes.

Nor was the intellectual side of community development entirely overlooked. Fordyce in Mississquoi sent two members to the Macdonald College short course in community organization, and Franklin in Huntingdon rented a travelling library.

Worked Hard on Roads

Considerable attention has been given to roads, with four forums going right into action. Harrington in Argenteuil reports that through the forum roads were kept open and snow fences put up. Ives Hill and Draper's Corners saw that winter roads were kept open. Flanders in Compton organized the Flanders Winter Road Association, which kept open over 12 miles of road. And Willowdale Road, Argenteuil members bought snow fence and got together to keep the road open all winter. Four other groups — Spring Road in Sherbrooke, Starks Corners in Pontiac, Allan's Corners in Chateaugay and New London in Richmond — sponsored petitions for road improvement.

In health, many of the forums were promoting the co-operative health services in Brome, Gatineau and Pontiac. Franklin in Mississquoi undertook a Red Cross canvass in the district, and members of the Chateaugay North group were planning to join the Blue Cross, as the Island Brook forum in Compton had already done. Frelighsburg in Mississquoi tackled the county health officer, and got a promise of better service in the schools. And Knowlton's Landing in Brome helped provide hot lunches in the school.

Besides working more recreation into their regular programs, many of the forums have organized special events. Franklin in Huntingdon staged an oyster supper and a dance to help finance a public swimming pool. While enjoying themselves at these events, the people could look forward to cool splashes in the hot summers ahead. Harrington in Argenteuil planned a picnic at the



Getting together to have a good time, like this group at a Lennoxville forum rally, seems to stimulate people into more local activity.

Argenteuil Historical Museum, where they could catch a glimpse of the early life of their county.

In Pontiac a number of the forums got together to put on hockey matches and moccasin dances, as a painless way of raising money. Austin No. 1 and 2 helped to finance electric lights on the community skating rink. And Knowlton's Landing in Brome and Ives Hill and Draper's Corners in Sherbrooke staged Christmas parties for the children.

Three groups sponsored National Film Board showings. They were Poltmore in Gatineau, Bulwer in Compton and Sutton Junction in Brome. In addition the Bulwer forum put on a pancake supper and an oyster supper and Sutton Junction followed its precedent of the previous year by taking the ladies to supper and the theatre. But this year they added something new when the ladies decided to return the compliment and take the men out.

Co-operative Jobs Led

Co-operative developments led off the improvements in agriculture. Willowdale Road in Argenteuil bought a lime spreader co-operatively, and Low Forest and Kingsley in Compton got together on the purchase of sugaring equipment. Heath Road in Pontiac had started to organize a co-operative gasoline service for forum members. Bulwer started a fertilizer co-operative, as a way of cutting costs; and Beaver Meadow and Ste. Elie bought their seed grain co-operatively. Sutton Junction in Brome started out on a co-operative wood-cutting venture which turned into a woodlot management project and succeeded in getting a lot of wood ready to haul out in a short time.

Many of the forums co-operated closely with each other in launching bigger projects. Several in Argenteuil banded together to stage a school fair, for which they raised the prize money. Cookshire in Compton undertook to organize a local calf club. Bevin Lake in Argenteuil promoted a warble fly campaign as a district project, with the county council supplying free powder to any farmer who wanted to use it. The Libbytown group in Stanstead started to test soil in the locality. And the Sherbrooke county farm forum council sponsored a home beautification contest, and organized a field day at the Lennoxville Experimental Farm.

Bilingual Venture

One of the most interesting ventures of all was arranged by Ives Hill and Draper's Corners in Sherbrooke. It was a meeting to discuss milk prices, which drew a crowd of almost 200, including both farm forum members and French-speaking farmers belonging to the Union des Cultivateurs Catholiques.

Undoubtedly many other projects were undertaken by the forums, but not reported to the Provincial Secretary. It is a pity not to have a complete record, as many of these ideas could be put to work quite usefully by other groups. But even those reported show a big increase in forum activity during the last couple of years.



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SUN LIFE OF CANADA

Twentieth Century Milestones

"Twentieth Century Milestones" is the theme of the departmental displays at Macdonald College Farm Day on June 24. These displays will feature some of the big advances that have been made in agricultural science in the last fifty years.

There will be a meeting of the Quebec Farm Forum Association in the morning, with registration starting at 9 a.m. At 10 a.m. the president, J. D. Lang of Byrsonville, will open the meeting with his presidential address. This will be followed by reports from several committees, and an address of welcome by Dr. W. H. Brittain, vice-principal of Macdonald College.

At noon, those who have already bought tickets may have their lunch in the college dining room, and others are free to have picnic lunches on the campus.

The official opening of an agronomy greenhouse dedicated to the memory of the late Professor R. Summerby, will take place at 1:30 p.m. Then visitors will be able to take their choice of four tours — household science, livestock, garden or irrigation.

The Household Science Tour will feature a visit to the kitchens and other places of special interest to women, and will be followed by a tea on the campus at 3 p.m.


For the Livestock Tour there will be a demonstration of progress through selection from cow families, by Professor A. Ness. The Gardeners' Tour will visit the plots where vegetable varieties are checked for purity, quality and yield under the Horticulture Department. And the Irrigation Tour will be a trip to nearby Maxwelton Farm to see a portable sprinkler in use on pasture, under the guidance of Professor L. C. Raymond.

At 3:15 the groups on the three agricultural tours will merge for a demonstration of equipment for harvesting grass to make silage. This demonstration will be given by the Departments of Agricultural Engineering and Agronomy.

Soils Take It on the Chin

It is estimated that in the United States the cultivated crops annually remove from the soil three to four million tons of nitrogen, two million tons of phosphoric acid and five million tons of potash. These are the three major plant foods. Fertilizers used replaced only one-tenth of the nitrogen and one-fiftieth of the potash.

Furthermore, H. H. Bennett, chief of the soil conservation service in the United States, estimates that 63 million tons of plant food are annually swept by water from cultivated fields and pastures. This figure, which does not include losses from wind erosion, is twenty times the loss resulting from crop production.




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Letting People Know

It pays to let people know what you're doing, many Quebec forums have discovered. During the last few years many of them have been sending news reports on all their activities to their local papers and radio stations. This has brought a gratifying increase of interest in the forums and of information on their objectives and their accomplishments.

Daily papers such as the Sherbrooke Record have devoted a great deal of space to news of the forums. This spring the Record published a special edition in which it devoted considerable space to the history and achievements of the movement as a whole. But for regular use the Record — and other papers as well — prefer news of what local groups are doing.

What officers are elected, what decisions are arrived at, what projects are undertaken, what meetings or social events are held? These are all meat for news reports. And in some sections of the province the forums caught on to the idea so well it raised a problem. The local paper was receiving reports from so many forums that it couldn't possibly publish them all because of lack of space; and beyond that, many of the items were so similar that after reading a couple the others were not very interesting.

Two counties have found ways of meeting this problem. In Pontiac the forums have been divided into three districts, each with a forum news reporter. One week the reporter in District No. 1 collects all the news from forums in that district, and boils it down into a good story for the Shawville Equity. The second week it's the turn of the reporter in District 2, and the third week District 3 has its innings. Thus each district is assured of good news coverage once a month.

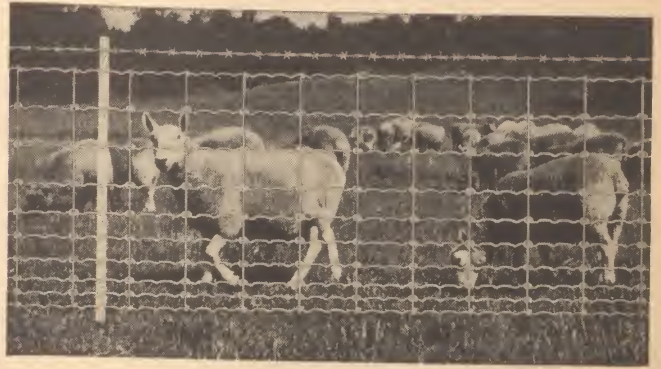
In Huntingdon there is only one forum reporter for the whole county. He secures reports from all the secretaries by telephone on Tuesday morning and writes up this material for the Huntingdon Gleaner.

Other places may find it possible to make similar arrangements, with their local paper, or they may work out something that will suit their conditions better. Sometimes reports can be given to regular local correspondents of city papers, or arrangements can be made to have items carried on broadcasts.

When a group has done an unusually good piece of work this is worth a special article in a newspaper or magazine of broad circulation. A forum reporter who has learned how to write and to take good action photos will be able to present an acceptable story. Otherwise, if papers or magazines are given an outline of the situation, they may be able to send staff writers and photographers to pick up the story. Such articles will further the cause of similar groups throughout the country.

Whenever possible, it's a good idea to have a talk with the editor, tell him about your activities, and get his suggestions on how to handle news reports for his paper.

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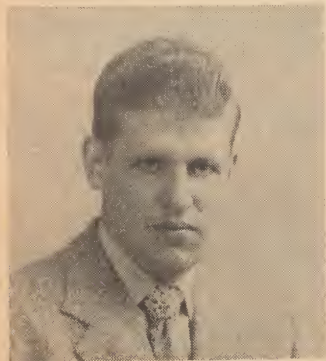
You can Bank on the "Royal"

Challenge is Offered to Public-Spirited Doctors

by J. Davidson

"The mental health of a community is probably more important than organic disease", stated Dr. S. E. McDowell of Shawville in his address to the first annual meeting of Gatineau Co-op Medical Service held recently in Wakefield.

Physicians are loath to admit that most patients need friendly counsel, not pills or operations, continued Dr. McDowell. The rural community, he felt, was a challenge to public-spirited practitioners. He challenged the concept that the "bright lights" could give any doctor the feeling of fulfillment.



Jim Davidson

"The doctor," he said, "who is part of his community gets the most out of life and puts the most into his practice. I know no doctor who has starved in the process."

Dr. McDowell outlined the growth of the Shawville Community Hospital from a rented house to a modern 100 bed hospital within a very few years. He could see no reason why Gatineau district with the same small beginning could not do the same.

Organizations such as the Co-op Medical Service, Dr. McDowell felt, were invaluable in making people health conscious. He envisioned the time when through education, personnel, and proper equipment the small rural community would have all the best medical service available.

The financial statement showed \$744.17 had been paid out to members and their families for hospital care in the first eleven months of operation. Net surplus for the same period was \$540.17. At present the Co-op supplies hospitalization service to some 400 people in the Gatineau district.

A film "Rural Health" was shown by Floyd Griesbach, secretary of Quebec Farm Forum Association. Stuart McClelland, Vice-President of the organization, was Chairman. Dr. H. V. G. Geggie of Wakefield, introduced the speaker.

Elected to the Board of Directors of the Gatineau Co-op Medical Service were Miller Gibson, President; Stuart McClelland, Vice-President; Mrs. W. Thompson, Secretary-Treasurer; and Directors, Howard Johnston, Mrs. H. V. G. Geggie, Mrs. L. H. Vaillancourt, Roy Stevenson, Arthur Brown.

The Supervisory Committee includes Clarence Smith, Stanley Cross and J. W. Delaney.



Notable contributions to the agricultural economy of Canada have been made by grain growers, fruit growers, and general farmers in recent years through the use of new organic chemicals of which the following are representative.

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Can Farmers Conserve Soil?

They can do the biggest part of the job, says Dr. MacFarlane, who has studied the conservation programs in the United States. But for the best results they need co-operation and guidance from governments. And some essential jobs are completely beyond the farmers' reach — they must be done as public works.

by David L. MacFarlane

SOIL conservation has been dramatized in the past 15 years. Most of us have seen striking posters and equally striking moving pictures on this subject. We have heard of the book "*Our Plundered Planet*." We have read headlines such as that recently attached to a report of Louis Bromfield speech: "Wrong Farming Can Destroy Civilization".

This dramatizing of soil conservation has been convincing — at least to city people. Perhaps it has scared the farmer. He sees air photographs showing continuous miles of contoured farm land. He senses the emphasis in the publicity on large scale drainage, terracing, and such engineering projects. He is quite aware that such undertakings are very costly.

Success has not attended the effort to construct a bridge from scare-headlines, book titles and movies to what the individual farmer can do about conservation. This has not been attributable to a stubborn quality in Canadian farmers. Rather it may point to a mistaken emphasis. Actually we should commence any discussions on soil conservation by admitting that a fair proportion of our farmers are carrying on conservation farming. We must recognize that conservation on individual farms by individual farmers represents 80 percent of the answer to soil conservation as a national issue.

Soil conservation is not spectacular. In its most important aspects, it is a job to be done by the individual farmer.



Dr. MacFarlane examines a three-inch deposit of soil washed down a furrow in a single rainstorm.

The first general approach to conservation of agricultural land is in the land-use plan or cropping system of each individual farm. The major point here is that land which is of rolling topography or is otherwise subject to erosion should be put in fairly long rotations and ploughed only often enough to keep a productive hay or pasture cover on it. The more level land is then cultivated in a shorter rotation involving more frequent ploughing. In this short cropping system or rotation most of the small grains and cultivated row crops are produced.

On many farms, especially those of 100 acres or more such a cropping system involves having two rotations. The first is a long rotation aimed at giving maximum grass cover to the land subject to erosion. The other rotation is short and involves getting the largest amount of cash crops, grains, and silage crops from the portion of the farm least subject to erosion generally the most fertile part. Underlying this approach to soil conservation is the basic need for adapting cropping systems to the production capability of the land.

The second approach to soil conservation and this also rests almost wholly with the farm operator is represented in the question of cropping practices. Good cropping practices are illustrated by the advantageous use of ground limestone, commercial fertilizer and farm manure, drainage practices, seeding mixtures, etc.

The most important point that should be made with regard to the soil conservation measures which the individual farmer can carry on (cropping systems and cropping practices) is that they generally pay off very well. The proper cropping system means adapting farm land to its best and most productive use. This increases output. Desirable farm practices mean high yields.

These two means of conservation are entirely or almost entirely in the hands of farm operators. They generally yield financial returns well in excess of the costs of implementing them. These facts should represent the major grounds for arousing a high degree of interest in soil conservation.

Public Programs

The next level of attack on the problem of soil conservation is that involving the use of public funds and public authority. This is less important in almost all respects than the approach considered above. It is, however, highly important in the sense that public programs

of either an educational or of a financial aid type may be the touchstone which starts off significant soil conservation efforts at the level of the individual farm.

It is difficult to conceive of too much educational work on behalf of soil conservation. This educational work should be very largely along the lines of developing and elaborating the essential matters of crop rotations or systems and crop practices, and adapting these to the special features of the individual farm. A second type of governmental program involves providing technical service to individual farmers who co-operate in developing a conservation type of farm management plan for their farm. The services generally provided are those rendered by agricultural engineers, soil and crop specialists, and foresters. Several Provinces are doing work along this line.

Use of Heavy Machinery

Another type of public program, related to the second, is in the provision of assistance in drainage, ditching, contouring, terracing, constructing water reservoirs and so on. Here, large scale machinery, which cannot possibly be owned by individual farmers, carry out these operations at a fraction of the cost which a farmer would incur if he undertook to do the work himself. Generally the arrangement between farmer and government is that the farmer pays for a portion of the cost of these large scale operations. This type of work is most spectacular.

In some regions the Provincial government carries on these operations; in others they are conducted by smaller units such as counties. The ownership and operation of expensive machinery of this type is sometimes the business of a cooperative.

In some types of conservation efforts the legal authority of governmental units is essential. This is the situation where the efforts of the individual farmer to conserve soil would be frustrated if his neighbors were not carrying on similar programs. It is illustrated most easily in terms of drainage which requires the cooperation of all farmers whose land is drained by the same creek or ditch for successful drainage on any of the farms. This authority has also been used advantageously in zoning regulations which prohibit the use of land in a given area in a manner inconsistent with general conservation requirements

Policy Programs

A major farm policy need today is that all expenditures of federal, provincial, and local funds which are directed toward agriculture should be examined from the point of view of whether or not they contribute toward conservation. Generally speaking farm price support funds do not contribute in a direct way toward conservation. The same amounts of money channelled differently could make a substantial contribution toward conservation. And at the same time they would meet the price support objective of transferring funds from the non-agricultural to the agricultural segment of the economy.

United States experience, both with the Agricultural Conservation Program and the Soil Conservation District Program, is rich in lessons showing the great conservation achievements which can be secured with the expenditure of modest amounts of public funds, say \$100 per year for five years on a farm of average size. The use of tax money in these directions is fully warranted for two reasons: (1) the nation's stake in conservation, and (2) that small government expenditures per farm generally set in motion conservation practices which have a significance far beyond the funds employed.

2,4-D May Harm Grains

Though the new herbicide, 2,4-D, is a remarkable weed killer, it is not perfect. The results from the earliest experiments led to the belief that all plants of the grass family, including wheat, oats, barley and rye, were immune to injury from 2,4-D applications, but later experiments have shown this belief to be wrong, says A. C. Carder, Dominion Experimental Station, Beaverlodge, Alta.

Plants of the grains and grasses are susceptible to injury from 2,4-D if it is applied in too large amounts, says A. C. Carder of the Beaverlodge Experimental Station. When using 2,4-D to kill weeds in grain, no more should be used than is necessary to kill the species of weed to be removed. In this way injury to grain will be kept down.

Time of applying 2,4-D is very important. Weeds are most easily killed by this chemical when they are young, juicy, and rapidly growing. It makes little impression on mature plants.

The weather is an important factor when applying 2,4-D. A strong wind may cause drifting of the spray or dust, causing uneven distribution and an imperfect kill of weeds. Rain soon after application may wash off some of the slower acting brands of 2,4-D such as sodium salts. With the quicker acting amine and ester brands there is less danger of failure from this cause.



384 Vitre St. West
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Disappearing Dollars

With our vanishing woodlots a great many valuable things are being undermined, says this forestry expert. They include water supplies, soil protection, wild life and rural beauty, says this article condensed from "Church-Farm-Town."

by Ellwood Wilson

THE question of timber supply for the Eastern Townships has become a very serious one. Some of our wood-using industries are already having to import from outside the district, while others are beginning to think about closing down within a relatively short period.

A study of the Federal forestry maps, prepared from aerial surveys, of the counties of Brome, Compton, Frontenac, Richmond, Shefford, Wolfe and Stanstead shows that, at the present rate of depletion, there are only enough trees thirty feet and up in height to last for nine more years. This is assuming that all such trees are suitable for saw logs — but anyone who is familiar with the region knows that this is not the case. While large areas are covered with tree growth of some kind, there is little merchantable timber.

Farmers' woodlots are generally in poor condition. The high prices paid for wood during the war tempted farmers to cut everything that they could sell, and many fine sugar bushes were cut. This was a great mistake, as a good sugar bush gives a good and continuing supplementary income. It is estimated that a good sugar maple tree, on the basis of its average yield of sap, is worth seven dollars, while if it is sold for lumber it will bring in about five dollars and the annual income ceases.

One of the most destructive agencies of our forests is the man who buys the total cut of a woodlot or the ground and trees, and then cuts off everything that will make a two by four, and leaves the area in such shape that it will yield nothing but firewood for the next 75 years.

Brings Big Returns

A well wooded, well managed woodlot will earn at least three percent compound interest — more than if the money were in the bank or in government bonds. Both the quality and the quantity of the wood will increase with the years, in perpetuity. The forest of the City of Zurich in Switzerland has been managed for over eight hundred years, and brings in a net revenue of \$12,000 per year.

"JOE BEAVER"

By Ed Nofziger



Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

"In order to conserve water you must start with soil conservation—is that so hard to understand?"

The price of lumber is rising continually, stumpage has risen five times since 1901 and the price of pulpwood has increased over four times in the last twenty years. It is likely to continue to rise as new uses are found for wood.

A woodlot is like a bond from which the coupons can be cut as annual growth, without diminishing the capital. It can always be drawn upon to furnish cash in case of emergency. It has another advantage over every other farm crop: it does not have to be sold each year. If the wood market is poor, the cut can be held over until prices are right, without incurring any loss.

The first step in managing a woodlot is to cut all the trees that are dying or beginning to rot, and those that are forked, crooked, double or affected by disease. Trees like poplar, hemlock and soft maple should be removed and the better kinds like oak, ash, basswood, hard maple, pine and spruce should be encouraged. Open spaces should be planted up.

All waste land, steep slopes and the borders of lakes and streams should be kept in trees or planted up. This prevents erosion — loss of good top soil — and holds back the water from melting snow and rain, letting it run off gradually during the summer, and thus protecting the springs and wells, and preventing floods. Brooks

which run through wooded country do not dry up as much in summer as those which run through open country. And everyone knows that game birds and animals do not live in open country, and that shady roads are much more attractive.

If the waste land in Brome County were planted up we would have by 1975 an asset worth well over \$2,000,000, which would support several wood-using industries and give employment to a large number of people. It would improve the hunting and fishing and make the region much more attractive.

Our other municipalities should follow the example of Sutton and Knowlton, and establish municipal forests. These, when they begin producing, will furnish funds for needed improvements or to reduce the tax burden.

More and more it is being realized that there should be no idle acres, but that every piece of land should be made to produce the crop most suited to it. Every acre that does not produce makes the cost of farm crops higher.

The idea that our natural resources are inexhaustible and that we need take no care of them has become very old-fashioned; it is now held only by those who do not think. The whole world is begging for wood; and in spite of the many substitutes, the demand keeps on increasing.

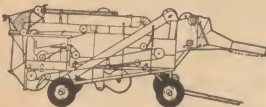
No farmer will willingly see tons of soil per acre washed off his fields if he knows he can correct this by planting on a well planned contour system. Tests have shown that plots planted to grass or legumes, or other crops cultivated on the contour, lose little or no soil. A farmer's experience may teach him that some soils, and some fields, should never be left without some kind of cover; in fact he may find that in the long run it is better farm practice to put some of these soils under grass for the production of seed or livestock.

There is no official "must" about preventing soil waste on a man's own farm, but if the operator hopes to stay and make a living there, the top soil must remain there too.

Soil erosion is nothing new. Whether due to wind, rain or overgrazing, it has played a vital part in the rise and fall of nations throughout recorded history. The story — and the lesson — is there for those in Canada who wish to learn.

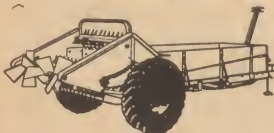
Gone are the days when a farmer could plough up, wear out and move on to greener pastures. To-day the wise farmer knows that if he takes care of his soil, the soil in turn will look after him.

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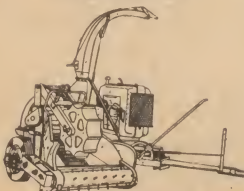
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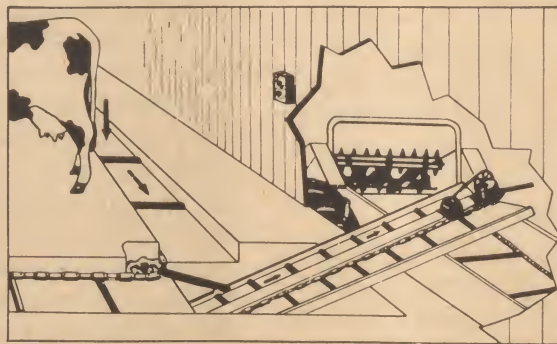
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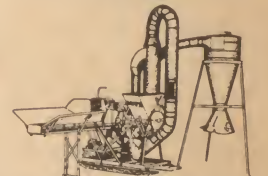
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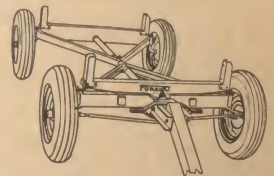
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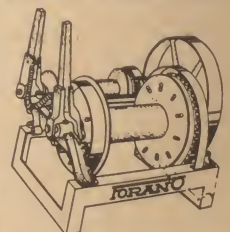
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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec
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A Made-To-Measure Sugar Bush

There are twenty-five thousand farmers in the Province of Quebec who make a business of producing maple products; they tap something like twenty-one million trees each spring and give work to some forty thousand men during the five or six weeks when the sap is running. In 1949, Quebec sugar bushes produced 1,651,000 pounds of maple sugar and 1,884,000 gallons of syrup, and this brought in \$7,427,000 in cash.

There is one bush among these 25,000 which is unique, in that it was all planted by hand; planned to make use of otherwise unprofitable land, and organized to make sap collecting as easy and efficient as possible.

Mr. Leon Jacques, at St. Joseph in Beauce County, right on the banks of the Chaudiere River, is the owner of this unique plantation, but the idea was born in the mind of his father, Joseph, back in 1912. He had a natural sugar bush, bordered by a tract of land which was growing nothing but small spruce, cedars and the like. It was on a medium slope, facing toward the river on the south-west, and its protected location with its sunny exposure looked like an ideal place for a large plantation of maples. So he went to work and planted a few small maple seedlings alongside the original bush, more to see what they would do than anything else.

When Leon took over the family farm, he continued the work his father had begun. But he didn't take chances; he planted only a few trees the first year. They did well, and he decided to make a real job of it: lay out the field carefully, plant the trees systematically, and keep accurate records of his work. He planted out several hundred trees every year, taking all the young trees from the old



Mr. Jacques' cabin is not new, but serves its purpose.

original bush. He set them in rows 12 feet apart, and put the trees 10 feet apart. Before starting planting, he cleared all the land of the conifers, brush, and so forth.

Looking over the plantation now, one can see how carefully Mr. Jacques made his planting plan. Stand wherever you like in the sugar bush, the rows of trees radiate like spokes of a wheel in all directions; his measurements between rows and between trees were very carefully made. But it would appear, now that the trees are getting to be a good size, that he might have improved on his plan. For one thing, the trees are too close together. A high producing maple tree is one that has a large spread of branches, which means a lot of leaves to manufacture and store the sugars which sweeten the sap when it starts to flow in the spring. These trees, planted ten feet apart, are growing tall and narrow, and the crowns are not as wide as they would have been if they had been farther apart. Of course, this can be corrected (and probably will be) by cutting out every second tree: there will be a lot of firewood when this is done.

Trees Scald Blady

A second disadvantage is the lack of underbrush. There is nothing to protect the young trees from sun scald and other damage from exposure, with the result that many of them are showing more or less severe injury, as is shown in the photo. Any young growth that comes along will probably be left to grow in future to make a bit of protection for the maples.

The first trees, planted in 1912, are now about 14 inches in diameter and, of course, are tapped every year; Mr. Jacques is now tapping about 300 of his planted



These trees were planted in 1934.



Typical injury from sunscald is found on many of the young maples. Protection while they were young would have prevented this.

trees, and more are coming into production every spring. They are tapped when they are about nine inches, which means that they are thirty-five years old, and when the 1946 plantings start producing, there will be about 2,500 trees in the plantation to be tapped.

Thirty-five years is the age at which a maple is usually tapped for the first time; but the experts at the Department of Agriculture feel that, with proper fertilization, growth may be speeded up so that maple trees will come into production several years earlier than this. So Mr. Jacques is co-operating with the Department in a series of experiments in his sugar bush, where different fertilizer treatments are being made and the results studied. Naturally, this will be a long project, and one from which results will not be obtained for a good many years yet.

Aluminum Buckets Used

Mr. Jacques's sap buckets are all the new, two-gallon, aluminum ones. Ordinary sap buckets have a soldered seam, and a tiny amount of lead always dissolves into the sap. Up until recently, little attention was paid to this, but with finer methods of analysis, somebody realized that if enough of this lead were eaten (lead is a cumulative poison) it might be dangerous. The American authorities are particularly averse to buying Canadian maple products if there is any chance that lead may be present.

This is a problem that has been tackled by both the Federal and the Provincial Governments. There is a campaign underway to have all soldered sap buckets replaced by aluminum ones. Any farmer who wants to exchange his old-style buckets for aluminium ones is required to pay only one-third their cost: the two govern-

ments absorb the other two-thirds. At present prices, the farmer can get a new, two-gallon aluminum bucket for 18 cents, or 15 cents for the gallon-and-a-half size, provided he turns in his old buckets when he orders the new ones. At the present time more than 10,000,000 old buckets have been replaced in Quebec, and it is expected that another 3,000,000 old ones will be exchanged in 1950.

New style spouts are also being used in some districts; they were developed following experiments at the Plessisville Sugaring School under the direction of the Department of Agriculture. The new spouts are made of aluminium, do not corrode or rust, and are so designed that they provide a much higher yield of sap since they get all the sap that is flowing close to the bark, much of which does not flow through the old-time spouts.

They All Get Together to Thresh Things Out

A threshing machine co-operative was started by eight farmers in the Bristol district of Quebec's Pontiac County in the fall of 1947. All eight are members of the Bristol farm forum, and each has an equal share in the machine. The secretary of the co-operative is Gordon MacMillan, and the manager is Charles Zimmerling.

After three seasons of operation, the eight were solidly behind the idea. There had been no trouble connected with the use of the machine, they said, whereas sometimes there had been difficulty in getting their threshing done before they started the co-operative.

Their method of operation is for the group to hire a tractor, on an hourly basis and to have Mr. Zimmerling operate the separator. The cost of operation of the machine is pro rated among the members after threshing, on the basis of the number of hours it was used for each. As two members own tractors, there is no trouble in securing one when needed.

This winter the group got together to build a shed to house their machine. Again they split the costs eight ways, and the eight men worked side by side at the job.



The eight members of the Bristol threshing co-operative turn out to work on a shed for their machine.

Meet The Queen



Henri Guilbert, son of the champion's owner, leads her before a crowd of admiring visitors.

Quebec Holstein Breaks 12 year old Butterfat Record

Sprucehaven Farm Triumph, H. L. Guilbert's "excellent" Holstein cow, is the new world champion for butterfat production over all breeds. At nine years of age, she has just completed a 365 day record on three a day milking, of 31,878 pounds milk, 1,365 pounds fat testing 4.28.

Triumph, who was Senior and Grand Champion at Quebec in 1947 and again in 1948, has the following records in four lactations:

Years	Days	Pounds Milk	Pounds Fat	Percentage
3	365, 3X	21,571	809	3.75
4	365, 3X	22,290	904	4.06
6	365, 3X	25,905	1105	4.26
9	365, 3X	31,878	1365	4.28

She is a great producer, a fine cow, and finished her latest record in splendid condition, still milking 80 pounds a day and without showing any evident signs of strain. She didn't go all out at the beginning of the test period: during the first two weeks, last April, she averaged 61 pounds a day, then raised this to 92 pounds during May. In June and July she averaged 110 pounds. Then she eased off to an average of 100 pounds, and for the whole 365 days her daily average worked out at 87 pounds. In only one month did the butterfat weight fall below 100 pounds, and for the first three months she averaged 129 pounds.

Her owner, H. L. Guilbert, has 60 head in his barn, at Vercheres, P.Q., 25 milking. A fox breeder on a large scale, Mr. Guilbert started his Holstein herd in 1942 with the purchase of Montvic Meg Empress at the dispersal sale of the Mount Victoria herd owned by the late T. B. McAulay at Hudson Heights, P.Q. He has built up his herd by careful buying of good foundation cows, and is now following a programme of line breeding.

Triumph has two "very good" daughters in Mr. Guilbert's herd: Eglantiers Rag Apple Hartog with 17,326 pounds milk, 3.77% at two years, and Eglantiers Rag Apple Faforit with 17,402 pounds milk, 3.61%. She also has a son by Montvic Emperor Ajak, who is the junior herd sire. Triumph herself was bred by S. J. Hammond of St. Paul's Station, Ont., and is the daughter of Raymondale Premier bred by Raymondale Farm, Vaudreuil, P.Q. Premier is a son of Raymondale Successor, the sire of Raymondale Ideal Successor who sired several famous bulls including Marksman, Lochinvar, Chief, Master, and Nobleman. The dam of Raymondale Premier is Montvic Chieftain Triumph who has produced at three years of age 15,209 pounds milk, 598 fat, 3.93%. She is a daughter of Montvic Chieftain who has 31 daughters who made 54 records with an average of 13,300 pounds milk, 3.96% Raymondale Premier is also a grandson of Raymondale Hiemke, who at eight years has produced 27,093 pounds milk with 976 pounds fat, 365 days 4X. The dam of Triumph is Sprucehaven Farm Faforit Lass who, in four lactations, all in 305 days and on two-a-day milking, has produced 46,582 pounds milk and 1,691 pounds fat. She is a daughter of Raymondale Lawrence, who is from Raymondale Ormsby, one of the good brood cows at Raymondale Farm.

Notables Meet Triumph

The new champion was officially congratulated by many of the leaders in the livestock world at her home barn on April 25th. Among those present at the gathering at Mr. Guilbert's lovely home at Vercheres, P.Q. were the Hon. Walter Jones, Premier of Prince Edward Island, W. A. Hodge, and George Clemons, President and Secretary of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada, Bro. Firmin, President of the Quebec Branch of the Holstein Breeders, Erskine Rodger, President of the Ayrshire Breeders of Canada, S. J. Hammond who bred the champion, Hon. Ant. Elie, Minister of State, Clarence Goodhue of Raymondale Farm, A. W. Peterson, Chief, Production Service, Ottawa, and many others.

New Furniture from Old

Furniture of sturdy construction, and conservative or plain in design, is frequently worth refinishing, believes Angus Banting, Director, Agricultural Engineering Services, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro.

In any process of refinishing, says Mr. Banting, the first step is to remove the old finish. This can be accomplished through the use of a paint or varnish remover of the spirit type, as prepared by paint manufacturers, or prepared from the following formula: Benzol, 50 parts; Methyl (wood) alcohol, 25 parts; Acetone, 15 parts; Gasoline (clear), 10 parts; and, paraffin wax, 2.5 parts.

The remover is applied liberally with a brush, allowed to stand a few minutes, and then removed with a scraper and cloths. Care must be taken not to damage the wood.

Progress Report From The Artificial Breeding Centre

At the end of the first year of operation of the Artificial Breeding Centre at St. Hyacinthe there were 840 farmers who were members of breeding clubs affiliated with the Centre. On December 31, 1949, a total membership stood at 1794, an increase of 114%. During the year, only 9 new clubs were organized, so a great part of the increase in membership came among the older clubs. The different clubs, and their membership, are given in the table.

Club Membership As At December 31, 1949

Club	Started Operations	Membership		
		1948	1949	Total
Baie du Febvre	May, 1948	41	47	88
Lower Bellechasse	May, 1949	—	73	73
Beaurivage	June, 1948	45	1	46
Cap St. Ignace	June, 1949	22	19	41
Chambly	May, 1948	67	31	98
Two-Mountains	November, 1949	—	67	67
Gentilly	May, 1948	47	30	77
Granby	December, 1948	66	75	141
Huntingdon	May, 1948	75	28	103
Iberville North	February, 1949	—	43	43
Isle-Verte	September, 1948	49	26	75
Iberville South	May, 1949	—	69	69
Montmagny North	May, 1949	—	30	30
Ormstown	May, 1948	56	34	90
Plessisville	May, 1948	55	37	92
St. Bonaventure	February, 1949	—	48	48
Ste. Elizabeth	May, 1948	45	3	48
St. Germain	November, 1948	50	51	101
St. Hyacinthe	April, 1948	116	100	216
Ste. Martine	June, 1948	45	10	55
St. Pascal	May, 1949	—	30	30
Thurso	May, 1949	—	46	46
Trois Pistoles	May, 1949	—	42	42
Warwick	May, 1948	61	14	75
Total		840	954	1794

Book Review

We have received for review a textbook on "Raising Game Birds In Captivity" which we recommend to any of our readers interested in this subject.

It is a most comprehensive treatise on game bird management, with excellent illustrations which, with the detail given in explaining management practices, makes this a valuable source of information for anyone interested in game birds.

There is a growing interest in game bird production, and this book presents an easy-to-read handling of all aspects of the operations. The author deals at the outset with the general problems of game bird management, following through with several chapters treating separately the special problems of handling pheasants, bobwhite quail, Hungarian partridge, Chukar partridge, wild turkeys, and aquatic game birds. One chapter deals with the management operations of a successful pheasant farm, and another discusses the marketing of game products.

The book, written by David B. Greenberg, is distributed by the D. Van Nostrand Company (Canada) Ltd., 228 Bloor St. W., Toronto and is priced at \$6.75.

During 1948, 3,283 cows were bred artificially, and 8,735 in 1949, about one quarter being Ayrshires and three quarters Holsteins. Of all cows bred in 1949, 21.6% were purebreds, 78.4% were grade cows. Each member had an average of 3.9 cows bred in 1948, and 4.9 in 1949.

The percentage of successful first services has increased in a gratifying manner, from 49% in 1948 to 65% in 1949. These figures are based on the number of cows not re-bred within 60 days following the month the first insemination was done.

Results are very encouraging, especially the rise in the percentage of successful services. It is commonly thought that the efficiency of first services in natural breeding in cattle stands somewhere in the neighbourhood of 60% and it appears that when breeders and technicians know their business, artificial breeding is as satisfactory, from this point of view, as natural breeding. But the advantages to the small farmer of being able to use outstanding sires is something that cannot be overestimated.

Authorities at the Centre, although well-pleased with their results, hope to see still more members enrolled in the various clubs, more cows bred, and an even higher percentage of non-returns recorded during 1950.

Old, But Not Out-Dated

A timely reminder to poultrymen appeared recently in the weekly *Egg and Poultry Market Report* issued by the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. Headed "Principles Don't Change; Essentials in 1907 the Same Today", it is an extract from reports of poultry institute meetings in Lanark County, Ont., in February, 1907.

Here is what the speakers claimed:—

"Just as surely as there are breeds that excel others in productiveness, so there are strains that excel the average of the breed.

"The production of eggs was just as much a nervous function as was the production of milk, hence the importance of handling fowls quietly and without undue disturbance.

"It was of first importance to have hens of laying instinct — feeding and management came second.

"With every improvement in blood, a corresponding improvement in the care and feeding must be made or progress would be uncertain.

"Any increase in the ability for greater production or in the ability to fatten became a source of weakness, rather than an advantage, if fowl are not supplied with sufficient food to give a full and active development to these functions."

Strippings

by Gordon W. Geddes

Well, the weather did what one might almost have hoped it would. Certainly I rather expected it. When we were having so much trouble in January trying to keep our home-killed meat from spoiling, I told Ivan if we could keep it from spoiling until March, we wouldn't have any trouble through that month. It turned out to be into April before it would have thawed and by then it was all eaten. Of course Dot had already canned quite a lot because we knew we had more than we could expect to eat before warm weather. Incidentally we found out why the local butchers appear so prosperous. I offered the small bull which we killed to the butcher for \$60 but he wouldn't pay it. We sold half the meat and the hide for almost \$50 and sold at a very reasonable price by the quarter. If there was a locker plant near us, it would pay to rent a locker but the only one is several miles away in a town we seldom visit for anything else.

Aside from keeping our meat the cold early spring weather may balance up the too warm winter and let us have some seasonable weather when spring really comes. We have to get about so much cold weather each year and May and June are bad months to have it. We set a high goal for the crop from the sugar bush this year, partly because we had our winter's work up in better shape than usual and partly because it looked as if other branches of farm revenue were going to be distinctly lower while costs were high. We were ready to tap for the first of it but it was quite disappointing as the quality was poor and so was the quantity. It took us three weeks to make fifty gallons and then we made fifty in a week. That is two-thirds of the objective and it remains to be seen whether we shall make the rest or not. However the quality changed from poorer than usual to better than usual on the second fifty. There are many controllable factors in the quality of maple products and some always make better stuff than others but there also seems to be something beyond the control of man

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which is a factor in it. Cool weather usually helps but it didn't at first this year. Storm in the sap usually hinders but we have had that all year with some good and some poor quality. Storm makes less difference to us than it did once as we have passed the half-way mark in getting covers for the buckets. Just now we intend to finish covering them in not less than two more seasons.

For those considering the matter of covers, we find the kind which hinge on the spout much better than the roof type which stay on the bucket. Once the former are put on they cause very little trouble in gathering sap while the latter are a definite nuisance. This year we made over most of the roof type ones to go on the spout. At the same time it made them larger than the usual commercial cover. That is one drawback for many farmers here. The commercial covers are not large enough for the style of buckets we have. Yet the larger buckets are the ones most exposed to the storm. The answer is to have special covers made or make them at home. We adopted the latter course and found it not too difficult. Unless we find some one who will make them for less, we shall make the rest of ours.

We have some unwelcome workers in the sugar bush. The porcupines are killing numerous young thrifty maples of which we haven't any too many. This winter they were particularly bad, perhaps because the thaws started the sap so often in the winter. Anyway they were bad enough so we

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hunted for their hideouts and set some traps in suspicious places. We got one old giant right away. This spring Ivan moved a couple of traps and caught a smaller one and a woodchuck.

If we reach our objective, our only complaint with the season will be (farmers always have to have one I'm told) that we didn't make more of it in the first three weeks and let the weather warm up earlier so the grass would start to grow. With both meal and hay so high a lot of us want to see grass growing though those with sugar bushes wouldn't mind so much if they were really sugaring. We are adopting measures not used for some time to avoid buying hay. We really had too much land in grain for the dry year but the oats sure come in handy. Anyway we had a lot of straw and used it heavily for bedding the first of the winter. However we changed to feeding it once a day with some molasses and began to use more sawdust for bedding. The question now is whether we changed soon enough to make the hay last. If our fall rye had grown it would have come in handy but only the small plot intended for seed grew last fall.

Some of the uproar being raised about the importation of Japanese shirts into Canada might well be repeated about the quantity of vegetable oil pouring in to be made into margarine. Our surplus of butter is apt to be more alarming than our surplus of shirts.

You're Safer In Quebec

Even life on a farm has its dangerous moments, particularly for men, who annually suffer 30,000 out of an estimated 37,200 non-fatal accidents on Canadian farms, according to a report of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Open trap-doors and inadequately protected stairs gave rise to the most frequent injuries and strangely enough these injuries from falls were more of a hazard to young and old persons, than those in the intermediate age groups. Persons from 20 to 40 years of age, however, suffered injury almost as frequently from cutting and piercing tools, or from crushing while handling agricultural machinery. The

Prairies, with about one-third of Canada's farming population, had 60 per cent of the accidents, due to the greater degree of mechanization of agriculture in the West.

Miscellaneous accidents totalled 10,000 and a frequent cause was injury from horses, either by kicking or runaway teams. Also included under this heading were backfiring tractors and other engines, automobile accidents and poisonous gas.

Fields and woodlots accounted for nearly 60 per cent of the accidents, and barns and outbuildings were the next most common place of accidents, followed by injuries sustained in the farm house.

Not only do the greatest number of accidents occur in the Prairie Pro-

vinces, but the relative frequency of accidents is also greatest there. According to the survey, the safest province is Quebec.

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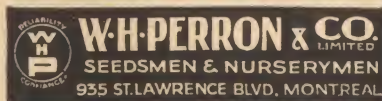


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THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes
and to matters of interest to them*

Country Markets In England

by Bertha S. Lang

I would like to tell you of a venture the Women's Institutes in England and Wales have taken up, and how successful it has become.

Everyone who has ever tried to grow fruit or vegetables knows how impossible it is to produce the quantity wanted, hence the problem of what to do with the surplus. For the smallholder, who produces things for a living it is even more serious. If he is fortunate enough to find local customers he still has to deliver it, while many others have to sell their produce at a loss.

The best solution seemed to be Co-operatives but that takes leaders to hold them together. At last an organized marketing scheme was set up and the smallholder, cottagers, and others could bring produce to this market. It might be fruit, vegetables, eggs, or cookery, and they got an adequate share of the proceeds. Classes were also organized to teach better methods of production and arrangements made for encouraging better growing and showing. This worked well but it all depended on local interest and above all, on the personality of its organizer.

What was wanted, however, was some organization working on a much larger scale, one in fact, that covered the whole country. The Women's Institute met these requirements admirably. It operated over the whole country, had the confidence of the general public and of wives and daughters of smallholders, it was entirely non-sectarian and non-political, and free of any suspicion of profit making. The idea was rather slow in getting started but then a time of economic crisis came and something had to be done to help the smallholder convert into cash any produce he and his family did not need. Sometimes this produce lost value because of faulty presentation. Here the W.I. had almost unrivalled opportunities. Through regular meetings they taught their members new methods of growing, packaging, and presentation. Moreover the deep interest the movement has created in the country assures that it can command good advice.

Do not let us pretend that the organization of a market was easy and their story shows that a large amount of solid, hard work was necessary. Market stalls were advised to register when first opening for business and at once many were suspicious of official forms, but this has been overcome. Regular grocers and shopkeepers were also afraid of being undersold but they soon found they were benefitting by the extra money circulating.



One feature of the 6th Triennial Convention of the A.C.W.W. is to be a photographic display of women working on the land. The Q.W.I. contributed several such pictures and here is a typical one, which arrived too late to be sent overseas, but permission was obtained from its owner to use it in the Journal. Gaspé members will recognize Mrs. A. J. Eden, former convenor of Publicity for that County, who also assisted with that aspect of the work connected with the Short Course held at Camp Haldimand last summer.

These markets are not all uniform in their rules. Each functions according to its needs or location. It may be on a busy intersection, in a market square, or a busy street stall. One was in a stable courtyard, where red valerian was growing up the stone wall behind the two tables covered with fruit, vegetables and flowers. The latter alone, brought in more than 20 pounds a week. Often it is hard to rent accommodations under cover and hundreds of people owe a deep debt of gratitude to market controllers and helpers who, week in and week out, in snow, rain, bombs, and shells, carried cheerfully on.

In 1945 there were 300 W.I. markets. Some were in towns and some in villages. Most are open one day a week, or one morning a week only. For that year the turnover was 50,000 pounds.

The registered markets are run by a Committee, have a public auditor, and annual meeting for shareholders. These may either be a County Marketing Society, or an individual one. The initial outlay in setting up these markets may be small and established ones are always ready to help new ones get started. The commission given headquarters by all markets is the same.

The National Federated Women's Institute provides an organizer whose job it is to visit markets and advise on production and selling. She works under a N.F.W.I. marketing committee which controls the administrative side of the work and organizes marketing schools in different parts of the country. The school syllabus includes

grading, packing, staging, cropping, pruning, and other horticultural teaching, also bookkeeping. The result has been that the small producer has learned that a better standard of produce, a better finish to their wares, brings a better price.

Much depends on the controller, who has to price the goods as they arrive, is responsible for arrangements and rota of helpers. She has to know what is in demand and advise producer what to grow. Her expenses are paid but services are voluntary, as is the work of the helper. The freedom of market stall is quite clear, no one is compelled to become, or remain, a member or to bring produce.

What Are We Doing?

(Extracts from a talk given by Mrs. R. Thomson, Q.W.I. President, over Station CHEF, Granby).

Commenting on the slogan used for Education Week, "Education is Everybody's Business," Mrs. Thomson states, "As past Convenor of Education and Adult Education for the Q.W.I., I feel that we, with a membership of 3000, scattered all over the Province, with a work and study programme covering such topics as Agriculture, Education, Citizenship, Cultural Activities and Home Economics, have made Education our business. In the field of promoting better schools we have elected women to school boards, I will mention no names but I believe that there are at least six women now serving on school boards. We have made it our business to sponsor school and community libraries, support Home and School Associations, welcome new teachers to our communities, offer prizes and scholarships, purchase radios for school use, and have promoted school fairs and garden competitions.

The Institutes are deeply concerned that there is still a number of unqualified teachers in our rural schools, but with more and more consolidated Composite High Schools, I believe that this, with the one room school house, will soon be a thing of the past. The Q.W.I. members are to be congratulated on the work that they have done to help establish Central School Boards."

Referring to the findings of the questionnaire on Rural Living Mrs. Thomson goes on to say, "What surprised me most about the replies dealing with Education was the 64% reporting that they had no opportunity for Adult Education. Where have we in the Q.W.I. fallen down on our job? For years, almost 15 I would say, we have had a Convenor of Adult Education, a library of books donated to the Q.W.I. from the English Women's Institutes, and a pamphlet library at the office at Macdonald College ready to serve our members. This year for example, a very interesting collection of material about Denmark has been prepared by the Q.W.I. secretary and the Macdonald Adult Education Service. All you need to do is write to the Q.W.I. secretary for the Denmark Study Kit. Do you belong to a Farm or Citizen Forum? This Adult Education programme that helps



A group from Pontiac at their county meeting.

people to help themselves, is a must for rural people. To progress in adult life and be capable of clear thinking we must continue our education. It is never too late to learn and surely we recognize this fact. We have many facilities at our disposal. Have we let them go begging? The Provincial Government, through their agronomes, demonstrators, handicraft technicians; the Federal Government through their CBC broadcasts and National Film Board showings; Macdonald College through its Adult Education Service; the Q.W.I. through their Short Course, "Facts, Fingers, Fun", through all these agencies there are topics of interest to all: music, art, horticulture, dramatics, handicrafts, and so on, the choice is unlimited; all that is required is the will to learn.

Now do you agree with the 64% that said they had no opportunity for Adult Education? I have a slight suspicion that this figure was not right.

I do hope that I have been able to convey some idea of the work that the Q.W.I. is trying to do. In closing this brief talk with you I would like to say that members of the Q.W.I. could find no more lasting way of serving their "Home and Country" than by supporting and enjoying Adult Education."

Our Demonstrator

(Looking through some very old files at the office the other day the following poem was uncovered. Evidently it had been left there by some previous long-suffering demonstrator.)

Have you ever wondered how a person feels

Whose one and only way of serving meals

Is standing up before an expectant throng

And hoping to Heaven that nothing goes wrong.

Demonstrator-Secretary looks good in print,

And true, everyone has to do their stint,

But just you try to bake a cake

Before 60 people who think you a fake.

You wonder if the flour is in or out,

I'm sure it was somewhere here lying about.

Now, did I tell them about this, or remember to say that,

Oh shoot, there goes a fly in the middle of the fat.

But I'll struggle along and keep a stiff upper lip,

And when its over they'll give me a tip,

"Dear, I think it would be better if you did it this way."

Meanwhile I'm an "expert," or so they all say.

The Month With The W.I.

Sixteen counties reported for the month of March, with accounts of Annual Meetings from the branches. So sorry we have not space to list the new officers, but sincerely wish them all a successful and harmonious year in W.I. work (Pictures will be very welcome).

Argenteuil: Arundel reports great enthusiasm for a course in felt work and hooked rugs they hoped to have. A prize for each of the ten grades in the local school had been purchased by the branch. Brownsburg enjoyed a visit from the County President, Mrs. Leggett, at their meeting. A food parcel was sent overseas. Frontier rendered assistance to a family which had been burned out, and sent fruit to an invalid. A parcel of clothing was sent to a widow overseas with a family of young children. Jerusalem-Bethany donated \$15 to the Red Cross and \$5 to the Boy Scouts. Lachute reports the addition of 91 books to the W.I. Library, and \$50 was given to the Red Cross. Lakefield made donations to the Red Cross, Save the Children and the Cancer Research Fund. Mille Isles distributed yarn for knitting an afghan, and sent the monthly parcel to England. Morin Heights received a book and several calendars as a thank-you gift from the English W.I. branch to which they send parcels. Donations were made to the Red Cross, Cancer Society and Children's Memorial Hospital. At Pioneer, a member displayed four beautiful rugs she had recently hooked. A salad tea and sale of home cooking was held to raise funds. Upper Lachute and East End contributed to the Cancer Research and are offering a prize to Grade 5 in the local school.

Bonaventure: Black Cape is making arrangements to have a course given by Miss Birch this summer, and Marcil reports similar plans. This branch made donations to all the current campaigns, and realised \$37.20 at a party. Port Daniel heard an address by the president, Mrs. Sweetman, and have decided to work, "on a budget" during the coming year. Restigouche held a very successful party and netted \$35.50 while Shigawake sent monthly parcel overseas, and a bundle of cotton and linen to the Cancer Society.

Brome: At Abercorn the rollcall was very apropos for the annual meeting "Why I am a W.I. member". Everyone contributed suggestions for the year's programme, and cotton wrappings were collected for the Cancer Society. South Bolton collected special recipes for the W.I. cookbook and raised funds on a knitted outfit for a baby. Sutton appointed their delegate to the Provincial Convention and planned the programme for the coming year.

Chat-Huntingdon: Dundee voted various donations at their meeting and 11 packs of playing cards were bought for the Hall. Franklin Centre reported buying 30 yards of material to be made up and used in their charitable work. Hemmingford branch voted \$25 to the Q.W.I.

Service Fund and a cup and saucer was presented to the retiring secretary in appreciation of her splendid services. At the Howick meeting current events were featured and \$10 voted to the Q.W.I. Service Fund. Huntingdon reports a splendid membership of 51. Gifts of fruit had been sent to shut-in members during the month. Ormstown branch is very happy to announce that Mrs. Kate Aitken will give a broadcast May 5, over CFCF, on "Ormstown, Town of the Week".

Compton: At East Angus a member was presented with a Life Membership and Pin. The sick were remembered with comforts, and one new member joined the branch. Sawyerville donated \$5 to the Red Cross and members assisted individually in the campaign. Scotstown sent a sunshine basket to a member in hospital, voted \$20 to the school lunch programme and \$10 to the Red Cross. South Newport branch report donations to the Red Cross, the Cancer Society and the local Cemetery Fund.

Gaspé: York Branch reports that they now have 56 books in their library. Wakeham and L'Anse aux Cousins stated only for March, "Annual meeting and election of officers."

Gatineau: Aylmer East reports a busy annual meeting. No report from Breckenridge or Kazabazua received by County Convenor, and Eardley was obliged to postpone the meeting because of road conditions. Rupert reports receipts for the year of \$738! The branch is loaning their hall to the Farm Forum groups for the showing of movies. \$5 was voted toward buying a layette for a baby in the district. Wakefield sponsored the collection for the March of Dimes and the fine sum of \$88.65 was realized. This branch was also asked to take care of the Red Cross drive in the community and a committee was appointed for this. Wright donated \$10 to the Red Cross and a similar sum to the school fair, sponsored by a neighbouring branch. This branch is co-operating with the Board of Trade in campaigning for a Cottage Hospital in the county.

Jacques Cartier: Ste. Anne's report the annual meeting and a donation of \$20 to the Red Cross. \$25 was voted to purchase socks, pipes, candies and other comforts for veterans at the Senneville Health Centre when the branch visited them and gave them a party.

Mississquoi: Stanbridge East sponsored a very successful Hobby Show in which the three schools of the district participated. 87 prizes were awarded for the most interesting and varied exhibits of cooking, handicrafts and collections. Fordyce reports making aprons for the local hospital. The Provincial President, Mrs. Thomson, spoke on the monthly broadcast over CHEF, Granby, her subject, "The Work of the W.I."

Pontiac: Beech Grove report donations of prints with which to make dresses, aprons, etc. for their sales. The Bristol Busy Bees heard a paper on "The use of cold water for burns", and Clarendon sent a donation of fruit and

vegetables to a fire victim in the community. Elmside held a birthday celebration at their meeting for a lady who was 84 years young! A beautifully decorated heart-shaped cake was the highlight at tea time. Fort Coulonge and Quyon have both decided to continue sending regular parcels overseas. The latter branch enjoyed a cooking school sponsored by Robinson Flour Mills. Wyman was busy making quilts and donated one to a family which had been burned out. Garden seeds were sent to a W.I. in England. The March meeting featured "Paddy's Day", with Irish jokes, stories and decorations!

Richmond: Cleveland reports a donation of clothing and \$25 to a needy resident. A very successful St. Patrick's supper was held. Denison's Mills remembered their oldest member on her birthday, and also presented a bride with a wedding gift. Gore sold a crib quilt to benefit the funds and bought a blanket for a new baby. Richmond Hill sent a basket of fruit to a sick person in the community and Shipton reports holding a very successful dance to raise money. At Spooner Pond, three new members were welcomed to the branch and Windsor Mills sent food parcels to England. Denison's Mills Junior W.I. donated \$45 to the Senior branch for use in the Community Hall, and the Richmond Juniors enjoyed a demonstration on the use of cosmetics.

Rouville: The yearly report was received from Abbotsford W.I. but no March "doings".

Shefford: At Granby Hill a hot dinner was enjoyed by the members attending the annual meeting. The "Sick and Shut-in" Committee reported sending fruit and flowers and \$10 was voted for the Red Cross. At South Roxton the meeting was small owing to bad weather and sickness but the usual business was transacted and Mrs. Thomson's letter was read to the members. Warden heard the report of the semi-annual Board Meeting and donated \$5 to the Red Cross. It was also decided to send a small gift to the local orphanage.

Sherbrooke: All branches report sending overseas parcels. Ascot held their annual meeting and invited 25 school children to partake of a delicious hot dinner at noontime. The retiring president was presented with a gift and Mrs. J. A. Woodward received a Life Membership in recognition of her devoted service. Belvidere sent a sunshine box to an elderly couple who were ill, while Cherry River featured an interesting contest at their meeting. At Lennoxville \$10 was voted for the Red Cross. The retiring Secretary, who is also a charter member of this branch, was presented with an electric clock in token of appreciation of her long service. Milby and Orford each made donations to the Red Cross and the former branch held a card party to raise funds.

Stanstead: Ayer's Cliff had a film showing to raise money for school lunches. Recipes were collected for the W.I. cook book and flowers were sent to a member in hospital. Beebe chose their convention delegates and

sent a bouquet to Mrs. Moir on the occasion of her 106th birthday. Hatley netted the sum of \$10 from a card party and made a donation of the same amount to the Red Cross. A parcel was sent to England. Minton presented a gift to the retiring president at their meeting, while at North Hatley a smocking class was organized. A sewing book was bought to be used by the members and books to the amount of \$25 were purchased for the local school library. In Stanstead North the citizenship convenor is assisting a young "D.P." to obtain his Canadian citizenship papers. The Way's Mills members made a quilt and 12 scrap books for "new" Canadian children arriving in this country. \$25 was donated to the Ayer's Cliff school lunch programme and \$5 to each of the following, Red Cross, Canadian Institute for the Blind, and Save the Children.

Vaudreuil: A luncheon preceded the annual meeting of Cavagnal branch. \$25 was voted for the Cancer Society and \$15 to the Red Cross. Two parcels were sent overseas. At Vaudreuil-Dorion, Mrs. J. L. McKellar was presented with a Life Membership in recognition of her outstanding work in the branch since its inception. Seven new members were welcomed, \$25 donated to the Red Cross and a similar amount to the Cancer Society.

Office News

The big item this month is, of course, the 36th Annual Convention of the Q.W.I., which is being held at MacDonald College, June 27-29. A varied programme of instruction and entertainment is being prepared and with the growth in number of branches, the convention this year should be "bigger and better" than ever before. So often we are asked, "How many delegates may our branch send?" Perhaps this is a fitting place to stress the fact that each branch, regardless of size, is entitled only to *one voting, or official, delegate*. (See Handbook, page 6, Article 7 — Annual Meeting) Provision may be made for a visiting delegate if desired but it is "one branch, one vote." When that section of the constitution was framed by early leaders of the Q.W.I. it was felt that was the democratic ideal to be followed. Representation to county annual meetings is based on size of branch — page 11 on Handbook. The Board Meeting is June 26-27.

Don't forget the Handicraft Exhibit, held in conjunction with the convention. The objective is a display from every branch, and especially from classes who have had instruction from Miss Birch. Hooked rugs will be spotlighted and Mrs. LeBeau has kindly offered to lend some samples of this craft from Les Arts des Domestiques, Quebec, which will make a valuable addition to this section of the exhibit. Entries must be in by June 15, they cannot be accepted if brought by the delegates at the time of the convention.

Do you remember the questionnaires sent out last fall to all branches, asking for information on their Personal Parcel project? To date there are still 14 outstanding. Would you please attend to this at once as completed returns must be in before the convention. The Women's Voluntary Services, Montreal, are also asking for these findings as they are trying to revise their lists of names and addresses and need this information.

Due to the present lack of staff in the office the work of bringing the pamphlet loan library up-to-date has had to come to a temporary halt. Work will be resumed as soon as possible after the convention and a new pamphlet list will then be issued for distribution to the branches. In the meantime, all requests for help with programmes will be attended to promptly. Give the subject on which you wish information and we shall be glad to make the selection of material for you.

The A.C.W.W. is one of the non-governmental organizations allowed the privilege of sitting in as observer

at meetings of international bodies connected with the United Nations, and here is an interesting item from the last issue of "The Country-woman". At the 5th Conference of the FAO, Mrs. Raymond Sayre, president, led the A.C.W.W. delegation and presented the "Women's World Food Petition." The Director General, in acknowledging this Petition, stated "It seems to me that with large surpluses of food on the one hand and millions of hungry people on the other we should be intelligent enough to work out some plan that would bring the two together and I want to thank you and the A.C.W.W. for the able support they are giving the FAO in its attempt to solve this very difficult problem." It is recorded in the official Conference Digest that Mrs. Sayre emphasised the need for taking action on surplus food without purely monetary consideration. "The time has come," she said, "when a new and systematic policy of giving priority to human need, beyond any other consideration whatever, is called for."

Farm Women Disagree On "Ideal" Farm Home

Women in rural areas of Canada do not entirely agree on the "ideal" farm home. This difference of opinion cannot be attributed to feminine whims, however. From the fruit farms of the Maritimes, the diversified farming areas of Central Canada to the wheat farms of the prairies and the farms of British Columbia, women have found that they need homes which will suit the localities in which they are living and their own individual requirements.

These conclusions were reached following a Better Farm House contest sponsored in all provinces, except Newfoundland, by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation and each provincial government. The purpose of the contest was to secure information on the requirements of farm house design and equipment and to stimulate interest in farm housing improvement. Some 32,000 women — members of 1008 farm women's groups — participated and discussed a variety of questions about the designing, modernizing and equipping of farm homes. A total of \$400 in prize money was made available to each province by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

The large majority of women made it quite clear that they wanted homes which are as modern, attractive and convenient as city homes. Electricity, insulation, water pumping systems, basements, and utility rooms adjacent to the kitchen were deemed necessities to the modern farm house. They also felt that the greatest need at present does not lie in the erection of new farm houses, but in the remodelling and repairing of the present structures.

The type of house desired varied, of course, with the localities. While British Columbia farm women favored a 1½ storey design, the women of the Prairie Provinces liked the convenience of the bungalow. Eastward through

Ontario, Quebec and the Maritimes, 2 storey designs were preferred. All agreed that they wanted bright, airy bedrooms — with large, lighted clothes closets. The women of rural British Columbia wanted three bedrooms — as a minimum — in their homes. The majority of farm women in Ontario and the Maritimes specified four bedrooms while the vote in Quebec was for five bedrooms. Of those who preferred a 1½ or 2 storey house, the majority like one of the bedrooms to be located on the ground floor. Many farm housewives also wanted "extra" sleeping space for guests, suggesting that provision for this could be made in the den, the farm office, or the porch.

The kitchen which is, after all, of prime importance to any housewife, received a great deal of attention in the discussions. The women emphasized the fact that every farm kitchen should be at least 12'x12'. Of course, each woman had her own views on the size she liked, but Quebec women seemed to favour a kitchen averaging 14'6"x18'5"; the women of the Maritimes, 12'x14'; and the women of British Columbia, 12'x16'.

The question — "where should farm meals be served?" — was discussed at length. It was generally agreed that at least some of the meals should be served in the kitchen. However, the women liked the modern "open" planning with some rooms doing double duty and the idea of a combination living-dining area. The women of British Columbia and the Prairies preferred that arrangement, but the women of Quebec voted for two separate rooms.

The conclusions of these group discussions, it is hoped, mirrors the opinions of the majority of farm women in the nine provinces. From them it can be seen that the modern Canadian farm women wants a home which is designed for comfortable, pleasant, living — a home which, with its many labour saving devices, will allow her to devote more time to other interests.

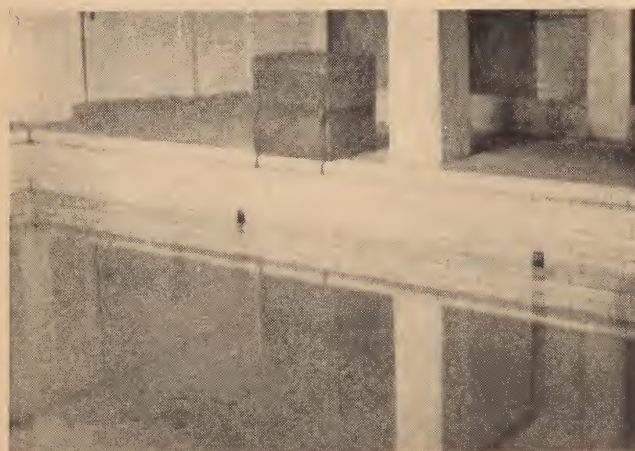
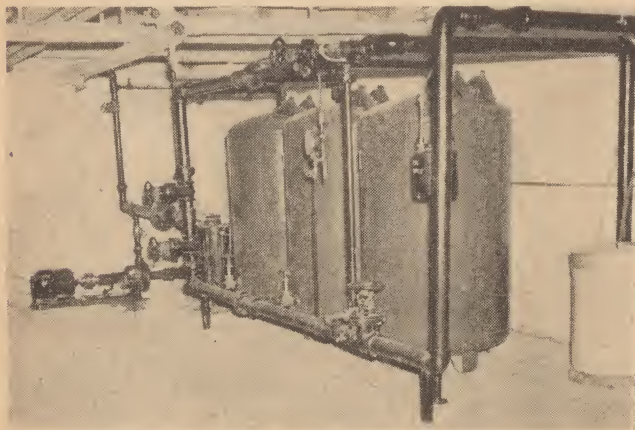


THE COLLEGE PAGE

Mr. Stewart Cleans Up The Pool

To Mr. Walter M. Stewart, the comfort, happiness, and general well-being of Macdonald College students are subjects of paramount importance. And, fortunately for the College, Mr. Stewart is the type of man who believes in translating desires into action. Some of these days we intend to devote this page to recording just what this generous man and his charming wife have done for the College during the last twenty-five years. But this time we are going to confine ourselves to his latest donation — the filtering plant for the swimming pool in the Men's Residence.

A good idea of the size of the installation (which cost over \$4500.00) is given in the first photo. The three large tanks are filters, charged with sand and four sizes of



gravel. Each filter has a capacity of 1080 gallons per hour; they can filter all the water in the pool in about 12 hours. On the floor at the left is the pump which draws the dirty water from the pool, passes it through the system, and returns clean water to the pool.

In the deep end of the pool two discharge pipes have been placed, and two inlet pipes of smaller diameter are embedded in the wall at the shallow end. When the pump is started, the water is drawn from the deep end, and pumps through the filter tanks, where all the suspended dirt is removed. From the filters the clean water is pumped back into the pool through the inlet pipes; the result is that the same water can be used over and over again, and kept clean without any interruption in the use of the pool.

This is the bare outline of the process, but a lot happens to the water in its passage through the system. Before the water reaches the first filter, it is treated with alum, which helps to break the bond between the dirt, the bacteria, and the water, so that these impurities are more easily removed by the filters. The alum also gives the water a better colour. When the water, now clean, leaves the filters, alkali in the proper amount is added to soften it. Next comes the chlorine treatment, and the water is almost ready to be put back into the tank. But first it goes through an instantaneous hot water heater, where its temperature is raised to 80°F. Finally, it is pumped back into the pool — cleaned, softened, sterilized, and warmed.

The initial cost was high, but the system will eventually pay for itself through the savings in labour costs for emptying and cleaning the pool, which used to be done every two weeks.

When the pool was photographed for this story, the same water had been in for three months. The picture was taken at the deep end, where the water is 7½ feet deep. And yet, as the photo shows, it is so clear that the bottom is easily visible. True, there is a little sand and dirt on the bottom, which stays up at the shallow end where the suction is not great enough to move it out. But this is not serious, and, in any case, it can be easily taken up with a vacuum-cleaner type of attachment for which the connections were installed when the filter is put in. We haven't got the vacuum-cleaner yet, but hope to have it before long.



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